

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of migrating business data from a source system to an extensible destination system, the method comprising:

examining a structural definition of the extensible destination system and synchronizing a structure of an intermediate database system with the extensible destination system;

collecting source data from the source system and populating the synchronized intermediate database system with source data; and

migrating the source data from the intermediate database system to the extensible destination system.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein examining the structural definition of the extensible destination system includes accessing metadata related to the extensible destination system.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing the structure of the intermediate database system with the extensible destination system includes invoking an initialization tool.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the intermediate database system includes an entity base table.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the intermediate database system includes an entity information table.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the intermediate database system includes an entity extension table.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the entity extension table is populated based upon an extension in the extensible destination system.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein migrating the source data from the intermediate database system to the extensible destination system is done according to migration overhead information.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the migration overhead information is user-configurable.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein user-configuration is limited to using one or more predefined software procedures.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein migration overhead information includes information about which entities are to be migrated.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein migration overhead information includes information about how many entities will be migrated.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein migration overhead information includes information about which attributes will be migrated.

14. The method of claim 8, wherein migration overhead information includes information about migration order.

15. The method of claim 8, wherein the migration overhead information includes an EntityMigrationInfo table.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the EntityMigrationInfo table specifies information about migration for each entity to be migrated.

17. The method of claim 8, wherein the migration overhead information includes an EntityAttribute table.

18. The method of claim 8, wherein the migration overhead information is stored as part of the intermediate database.

19. The method of claim 1, wherein the intermediate database is embodied on an SQL server.

20. A method of migrating business data from a source system to a destination system, the method comprising:

collecting source data from the source system and populating the synchronized intermediate database system with source data; and

migrating the source data from the intermediate database system to the destination system in accordance with migration overhead information.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the intermediate database system includes an entity base table.

22. The method of claim 20, wherein the intermediate database system includes an entity information table.

23. The method of claim 20, wherein the intermediate database system includes an entity extension table.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the entity extension table is populated based upon an extension in the extensible destination system.

25. The method of claim 20, wherein the migration overhead information is user-configurable.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein user-configuration is limited to using one or more predefined software procedures.

27. The method of claim 20, wherein migration overhead information includes information about which entities are to be migrated.

28. The method of claim 20, wherein migration overhead information includes information about how many entities will be migrated.

29. The method of claim 20, wherein migration overhead information includes information about which attributes will be migrated.

30. The method of claim 20, wherein migration overhead information includes information about migration order.

31. The method of claim 20, wherein the migration overhead information includes an EntityMigrationInfo table.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein the EntityMigrationInfo table specifies information about migration for each entity to be migrated.

33. The method of claim 20, wherein the migration overhead information includes an EntityAttribute table.

34. The method of claim 20, wherein the migration overhead information is stored as part of the intermediate database.